

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 199

Expressing the sense of the Congress that a national summit of sports, political, and community leaders should be promptly convened to develop a multifaceted action plan to promote citizenship through sports, emphasizing the aspects of sports culture that promote self-respect and respect for others, and that deter acts of violence, including domestic violence and sexual assault.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 24, 1996

Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mrs. MORELLA) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that a national summit of sports, political, and community leaders should be promptly convened to develop a multifaceted action plan to promote citizenship through sports, emphasizing the aspects of sports culture that promote self-respect and respect for others, and that deter acts of violence, including domestic violence and sexual assault.

Whereas involvement in sports places individuals in a unique context of competition that provides an opportunity to teach, learn, and hone qualities of citizenship, including values that promote self-respect and respect for others,

and deter acts of violence including domestic violence and sexual assault;

Whereas our Nation's sports culture is derived from and influenced by the thoughts, beliefs, speech, and other behavior of organizations and individuals associated with professional and amateur sports in America;

Whereas professional and amateur athletes and sports coaches are role models with great national influence and have helped to positively shape the lives of countless individuals;

Whereas professional and amateur athletes, and sports coaches, administrators, volunteers, and team owners have consistently participated in a diversity of outstanding and valuable community service projects throughout the Nation;

Whereas many professional and amateur sports organizations have instituted educational programs and other measures to deter and sanction misconduct, including abuse of legal and illegal drugs, illegal gambling, discriminatory practices, and other unethical behavior;

Whereas the Citizenship Through Sports Alliance is made up of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the National Junior College Athletic Association, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, the National Federation of State High School Associations, the United States Olympic Committee, Major League Baseball, the National Football League, the National Basketball Association, and the National Hockey League; and

Whereas the Congress recognizes and applauds the mandate and activities of the Citizenship Through Sports Alliance and its member organizations and are encouraged by

their efforts to promote citizenship by teaching athletes values that will help the athletes to become better citizens: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

3 (1) a national summit should be promptly convened to develop a multifaceted action plan to promote citizenship through sports, emphasizing the aspects of sports culture that promote self-respect and respect for others, and that deter acts of violence, including domestic violence and sexual assault;

9 (2) the members of the national summit referred to in paragraph (1) should include—

11 (A) sports, community, religious, and political leaders;

13 (B) individuals with experience in youth advocacy;

15 (C) individuals with experience in antiviolenace advocacy;

17 (D) members of the Citizenship Through Sports Alliance;

19 (E) Members of Congress; and

20 (F) other governmental and community
21 leaders with specific expertise in education and
22 advocacy programs that promote self-respect
23 and respect for others and that work to deter

1 acts of violence, including domestic violence and
2 sexual assault;

3 (3) the action plan referred to in paragraph (1)
4 should—

5 (A) be designed to encourage the participa-
6 tion of all levels of athletes, from those involved
7 in youth leagues to those who are involved in
8 professional sports;

9 (B) emphasize and promote values such as
10 self-respect and respect for others, teamwork,
11 discipline, responsibility, and commitment;

12 (C) encourage and promote participation in
13 sports as a positive character building activity;

14 (D) promote a sports culture that encour-
15 ages integrity, honesty, fairness, inclusion, tol-
16 erance, nonviolence, and a commitment to excel-
17 lence; and

18 (E) include a high-profile public education
19 program and media campaign to promote values
20 such as self-respect and respect for others, and
21 to deter acts of violence, including domestic vio-
22 lence and sexual assault; and

23 (4) the members of the national summit re-
24 ferred to in paragraph (1), and other sports, com-
25 munity, religious, and political leaders should as-

- 1 sume leadership roles in promoting good citizenship
- 2 and should promote the measures developed by the
- 3 national summit.

